

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An accounting apparatus comprising:
input means for inputting money information
indicating an amount of money; and
5 judging means for judging the money information
input from said input means and outputting a permission
signal for permitting a use of information provided by
an information provider.

10 2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said judging means judges the money information in
accordance with the money information and use charge
information added to the provided information.

15 3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said money information is cash.

20 4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said money information is recorded in a recording
medium.

5. An information receiving apparatus for
receiving information provided by an information
provider, comprising:

25 input means for inputting money information
indicating an amount of money; and
judging means for judging the money information

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6. An information receiving apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said judging means judges the money information in accordance with the money information and use charge information added to the provided information;

8. An information receiving apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said money information is recorded in a recording medium.

9. An information receiving apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising communication means for transmitting use information of the provided information.

10. A communication system comprising:
an information provider terminal for providing
information;
a user terminal for receiving and using
information provided by said information provider

terminal; and

an accounting unit inputted with money information and having judging means for judging the input money information, and outputting a permission signal for permitting a use of information provided by an information provider.

11. A communication system according to claim 10, wherein said judging means judges the money information in accordance with the money information and use charge information added to the provided information.

12. A communication system according to claim 10, wherein said money information is cash.

13. A communication system according to claim 10, wherein said money information is recorded in a recording medium.

14. A communication system according to claim 10, further comprising communication means for transmitting use information of the provided information.

15. A communication system according to claim 14, further comprising a charge distributor terminal for transmitting charge distribution information to said information provider terminal in accordance with the

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16. A communication system according to claim 14, further comprising a charge accommodating terminal for performing accommodation of a use charge of the provided information in accordance with the use information.

18. A device in operation with a terminal from which a user uses information provided from an information provider, comprising:

means for inputting second data regarding the information provided from the information provider; and

wherein said judging means transmits the judgement result of a use permission to the external of the device.

19. A device according to claim 18, wherein said

second data includes a use charge, and said judging means judges a use permission of the information by comparing the amount of money and the use charge.

5 20. A device according to claim 18, wherein said first data includes data indicating the type of a recording medium in which said first data is recorded, and said judging means judges a use permission of the information in accordance with the data indicating the
10 type.

21. A device according to claim 18, further comprising means for rewriting the amount of money in response to a judgement operation of said judging
15 means.

22. A device according to claim 18, further comprising means for outputting a use state of the information to the external of the device in response
20 to a judgement operation of said judging means.

23. A device according to claim 22, further comprising means for rewriting the amount of money in response to a judgement operation of said judging means, and means for notifying a use state of the
25 information to the external of the device, synchronously with the operation of said rewriting means.

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